

Verifile International Newsletter | April 2017

Welcome to our April edition of the International Newsletter 2017 which we hope you find helpful in keeping up to date.

Changes to the Verifile System and International checks

I am writing to update you on some exciting news at Verifile. We have been working hard behind the scenes to improve the client experience and join up the process for ordering UK and International Credit, Criminal, Identity, Driving, Company and Directorship checks using the Verifile system. Whilst there are several phases to this project, the final outcome will bring together your current ordering process for UK checks with checks from around the world. We want to make the end to end user experience as seamless and user friendly as possible.

What will be new in phase one?

Phase one of this project is almost ready to go live and we would like to make sure that you are aware of what this will mean for you. Over the next couple of weeks you will start to see new orders for international checks on the Verifile system. Currently the system allows you to view, track and collect results for all UK and Ireland checks. In phase one of this project, you will be able to do exactly the same for any of your international checks and the results will appear in your final report.

While all International check results have historically been sent to you by email, you will now be able to view results on the Verifile system. If you require an update on these checks, you will be able to check progress on the Verifile system. In addition, you will receive email notifications when orders are placed, and orders are completed, depending on the preferences that you currently have set up on your account.

Your final reports will become available once all checks, including international, are completed. In the next phase of the project, we plan to give you more control over when you would prefer to receive automatic interim reports.

Please note that phase one will not change how you order International checks. Whether they are carried out automatically by Verifile or you request them via **email**, the ordering process will remain the same. The next phase of this project will allow you to order the international checks online.

If you have any questions in relation to these improvements and how this will impact future orders, please contact our Client Service Team on +44 (0)1234 339 350 or your Account Manager directly. They can talk you through the project in more detail and answer any questions you may have.

UK Criminal Records

We would like to give you an update on a couple of points relating to the UK Criminal Records. Firstly an update on progress with moving the process for Basic Disclosures from Disclosure Scotland (DS) to Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS). The original plan was for the project to be completed in January 2017 but significant delays have caused this to be pushed back. The DBS are still discussing the migration approach but early indications are that some providers will start moving their application submissions from DS to DBS from July onwards, with the migration due to complete by the end of September. We will keep you informed of progress over the coming months as and when dates are confirmed to us.

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Secondly, we would like to update you with some stats on UK criminal record checks; the percentage of candidates with convictions and the average turnaround times for completing these checks in the last six months from October 2016 to March 2017.

	No. of candidates with convictions (%)	With convictions (actual days)		Without convictions (actual days)	
		Average	Median	Average	Median
Indicative Results (Disclosure Scotland)	1.14	4.89	5	3.78	3
Basic Level (Disclosure Scotland)	2.38	8.26	7	6.89	7
Standard level (DBS)	10.45	29.59	17	3.53	2
Enhanced level (DBS)	13.83	59.37	45	11.38	5

The turnaround time was calculated from the moment the relevant government agency accepted the order. This way we have eliminated the time it takes to collect the required information from candidates. This is due to a high variance between clients on the time taken to collect this information, and also the quality of information submitted to us at the start of the process.

Republic of Ireland

Vetting of Persons Carrying Out Relevant Work with Children or Vulnerable Persons.

The National Vetting Bureau (Children and Vulnerable Persons) Acts 2012 to 2016 provide a statutory basis for the vetting of persons carrying out relevant work with children or vulnerable persons. The Act also creates offences and penalties for persons who fail to comply with its provisions.

The Act stipulates that a relevant organisation shall not permit any person to undertake relevant work or activities on behalf of the organisation, unless the organisation receives a vetting disclosure from the National Vetting Bureau (NVB) in respect of that person.

In the light of this, NVB have issued an advice regarding retrospective An Garda Síochána vetting (Section 21) and have stated that every person who was in a position working, or with access to vulnerable adults and or children prior to the enactment of the Children's Act on April 29th 2016, must have completed the vetting process by December 31st 2017.

NVB reminds that it is an offence for any person to work in a position that puts them in contact with vulnerable adults and or children without being vetted. As an employer, you must have a vetting disclosure on file for every person whose role falls into this category by December 31st 2017. If you do not, you are breaking the law.

POLAND

Driving Licence Check

We are no longer offering this search as the scope of the information that can be obtained, as well as the requirements to run this search, have significantly changed:

- Going forward, the report will only show the driving entitlements that have been issued. However, it will not confirm if these entitlements

- are still valid at the date of the search.
- The ministry will no longer include information on penalty points, court driving bans, DUI convictions, suspended or revoked entitlements, lost or stolen driving license photo cards or ADR entitlements.

These changes are the result of the transfer of the responsible department from one government ministry to another.

Important note: We are still able to provide Polish criminal records search, which includes those traffic incidents that have resulted in a criminal conviction. For example, driving under the influence (DUI). Minor traffic offences which have resulted in penalty points will not be reported in the criminal check.

SERBIA

Criminal Records

A new application form and instructions are now in place. With this update candidates no longer need to post the original forms. Instead, we are now able to accept all the documents electronically via email or uploaded to our system.

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-Ohio State and Federal Courts Find No Standing to Assert Technical Violations of the FCRA's Background Check Disclosure Requirement

-Los Angeles Ban the Box - New Individualized Assessment and Reassessment Form

-Florida Employers: Here Comes Medical Marijuana - Are You Ready?